

## OCALA EVENING STAR

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BITTINGER &amp; CARROLL, PROPRIETORS

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PHONE 51

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## ANCIENT HISTORY OF OCALA

The Star, in common with several other state papers, has commented adversely on the fact that the state legislature did not adopt the Torrens title system, which is in successful operation in some states and does away with a great deal of the trouble necessary in tracing the titles in Florida. Speaking of the matter, the other day, to a prominent abstract man, the Star was informed that while the system was ideal in new states, where all the titles were direct from the government, it would not do very well in the older commonwealths, where the chain of deeds went back a century or more. In connection with this, the reporter was shown an abstract of title to half of Ocala, going back for ninety-six years. This abstract showed how in 1825 one Antonio Alvarez sold 1500 acres of land (which land the said Alvarez had received in 1817 from the king of Spain) in the big swamp or hammock of Alachua county, to Col. Gad. Humphreys, of St. Augustine. The land covered most of Ocala and the purchase price was \$550. An immense amount of interesting history can be dug out of the dusty public records by a man who knows how.

The abstract may be summed up as follows: Lying to the east of the land patented to the county commissioners and on which the original town of Ocala was platted is the Alvarez Grant of 1500 acres. This tract was granted to Don. Antonio Alvarez by Don Jose Coppinger, a former governor of East Florida when a province of Spain, on Dec. 17, 1817, under what is now designated as the "Royal Order of 1815," of the king of Spain.

On August 30, 1825, Alvarez conveyed to Gad Humphreys of St. Augustine, an undivided moiety of the grant, which is described as being at a place called the "big swamp or hammock" for a recited consideration of \$550, and on June 6, 1849, Alvarez conveyed the remaining moiety of the tract to Joseph Caldwell with a recited consideration of \$2,000.

The grant remained undivided until 1851, when Stephen Bryan, who then owned the Humphreys moiety, quit-claimed his interest in the west half to Joseph Caldwell. Caldwell practically subdivided all of his interest.

The east half remained in an entirety until 1866, when the estate of William H. Howard conveyed it to S. M. G. Gary and Isabella C. Henderson and through these title was vested in William Cox and then began the breaking up of the 750 acres into small parcels.

President Huerta of Mexico has been represented as a tiger in ferocity and cunning and in every way made to appear as a very dangerous and odious character. But we have our doubts. Yellow journalism is always rampant in a case like this and we get but a minute, golden thread of truth along with a vast amount of dross represented to us as the truth. We suspect that if Huerta's true character were made known to us we would find him an amiable, well-meaning old gentleman who loves his country devotedly and is trying to do the right thing under circumstances of tremendous difficulty that might well puzzle and embarrass the wisest and strongest man in the world. Give the old man a chance and cut out the tiger stuff.—Lakeland Telegram.

Good sense in what the Telegram says. Most people in writing about Mexico say what they think and not what they know.

Says the Miami Herald: Practically all of the boards of trade and other commercial organizations to whom the Miami board of trade's homeseekers' rates were sent have replied favorably and their letters state that the various bodies will heartily endorse the action of the local board, and endeavor to aid the movement in every possible manner.

There are many cities in the benighted portions of the world (and in comparison with the United States

most of the world is benighted) where any good American citizen would make a benevolent and progressive autocrat. But no man is big enough to be an autocrat in an American city—not even as small a city as Ocala.

## WIFE MATERIAL WASTED

D. V. H. in the Tampa Tribune gives the following description of an Irish setter. The description is so graphic that the Star can't help saying that if the dog had only been a woman she would have made an ideal wife for a selfish man:

That Irish setter never talked back to her master no matter what she was ordered to do. He made a mistake and killed her by overwork but she never tried to "fall down" on the job while doing it.

She never thought that what her master did was not right. There was never a question in her mind that he was capable of any wrong doing.

He never had to make company for her; she was always satisfied in the presence of that one person. She never asked questions about the food that was placed before her; she ate it and was satisfied, never kicking at the quality or quantity.

She would follow him to the ends of the earth; no thought of turning back would have ever entered her head.

She never sulked when mistreated; for the time being she would show as plainly as a human being that her feelings were hurt but it lasted only a few minutes. In a half hour she was as cheerful and bright as before.

She always tried to please. It is part of a dog's nature to require petting and she knew what to do to be petted.

Her love belonged wholly to her master—there was no rival in her affections.

She respected his moods; hundreds of times when not spoken to for hours, she kept plodding along, never intruding in the way.

She never told her troubles to him; they were always kept to herself.

She never pried into his secrets. She was always polite and thanked him with a wag of her tail for any kind word spoken to her.

She would have fought to the death for him.

She always missed him when he was away, running about the house and yard looking into every nook and corner.

Harmony is a good thing. It is worth giving up some other things to attain and preserve. Maybe it is better than anything else. About 127 years ago, some people in what is now the United States thought harmony was better than independence. We refer to them unlovingly as Tories, but we have among us some people of their disposition today.

Nine hundred and eighty-six deeds were turned over to the Florida Title and Abstract Company Monday by the Clark-Ray-Johnson Company of Martel. These deeds cover the title of immense tracts of land in this section, and the abstract company will trace them to their sources and arrange them in proper order. Some European kingdoms would go inside the lands of the Clark-Ray-Johnson Company.

An old-established Ocala industry that deserves much greater encouragement than it is receiving is Charles Mathews' cigar factory. Mr. Mathews makes as good cigars as can be found anywhere, and he employs skilled workmen, who spend all their money at home. It would be a mighty good plan for Ocala people to buy more of his cigars and enable him to employ more workmen. If he was properly patronized, he could employ ten workmen where he now employs one, who would spend a thousand dollars a month instead of a hundred in Ocala. This isn't an advertisement for Mathews; it is money-saving advice for Ocala. It is proper to add right here that Secretary Rooney of the Marion County Board of Trade will not buy a cigar

made outside of Ocala if he can help it, and it would be no sacrifice, but public spirit, for a thousand Marion county men to follow his example.

## BIG ORANGE EXHIBITS

WANTED AT THE FAIR

The fair management is very anxious to have large exhibits of citrus fruits of all kinds at the Marion County Fair this year. No county in the state can make a better exhibit of these fruits than Marion, if her people will only make the effort. The magnificent groves at Lake Weir, Orange Lake and other places in the county are loaded with beautiful fruit. Select a few boxes from your groves of oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, mandarines, satsumas or lemons and send them to the fair. Bring lots of them. Make a big exhibit.

## AHEAD OF OCALA

If the following from the Dunnellon Advocate materializes the Phosphate City will go ahead of the Brick City, unless the latter hurries and makes connection with water transportation. The Advocate says:

"In addition to having now cheap fertile lands, we wish to call the attention of the outside world to the fact that we have a great power station on the river here and are not only prepared to offer cheap current and free sites to manufacturing plants wishing to locate here, but we can furnish cheap current to any one enterprising enough to wish to irrigate his farm. At present wires run in every direction to the various mines, over good cleared land and one would only have to reach up and tap a line to get an irrigating plant the like of which could not be duplicated in other sections for many thousands of dollars.

"Our town is a lustrous young burg and is now making moves which will in the near future make of it a commercial center of some importance. In erecting the great power station referred to above, certain shoals, which have heretofore been a barrier to navigation on our river, have been completely submerged, and we soon will have ten feet of water from the sea up to Dunnellon, a distance of some twenty miles. This is sufficient for considerable water traffic and when we use this, it will be no trouble to get a deeper channel as

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the experience of every seaport city proves.

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"When we receive these vessels we will be in position to command rates on our three railroads which will insure us a jobbing and other business, which will make other towns sit up and take notice of Dunnellon."

## FACTS AND PHOTOS

Summerfield Chronicle: The handsome Marion county booklet, issued by the Marion County Board of Trade, has reached our office, and it is without doubt, a splendid picture advertisement of our county. Mr. J. D. Rooney, secretary of the board, is to be congratulated for his effort. We note with pleasure that district No. 3 is well represented in the booklet and shows the great possibilities of this section as it does of the entire county. As soon as possible the Chronicle will cause to be sent to its northern subscribers a copy of this booklet.

Mr. S. J. McCully, government agricultural demonstrator for Marion county, was a caller Wednesday. He is enthusiastic about the possibilities of the soil of this county for agriculture and is heartily in accord with the movement on foot here to promote truck growing in the vicinity of Dunnellon. Mr. McCully will be present to address the farmers at the meeting to be held about the first week in December, when the truck growers' association will be launched.—Dunnellon Advocate.

## COAST LINE'S TIME CARD

The winter schedule of the Atlantic Coast Line is now in effect. It is as follows:

## Southbound

No. 39 leaves Jacksonville at 9:30 a. m., arrives Gainesville at 12:30 a. m., arrives Ocala at 2:40, arrives St. Petersburg at 9:10 p. m.

No. 9 leaves Jacksonville at 3:40 p. m., arrives Gainesville at 6:53 p. m., arrives Ocala at 8:45 p. m., arrives at Leesburg at 10 p. m.

No. 37 leaves Jacksonville at 9:30 p. m., arrives Gainesville 12:37 a. m., arrives Ocala 2:18 a. m., arrives St. Petersburg 8 a. m.

## Northbound

No. 38 leaves St. Petersburg 8:30 p. m., arrives Ocala at 2:20 a. m., arrives Gainesville 3:58 a. m. and arrives Jacksonville 7 a. m.

No. 10 leaves Leesburg at 4:45 a. m., arrives Ocala at 6:05 a. m., arrives Gainesville at 7:55 a. m. and arrives Jacksonville at 10:55 a. m.

No. 40 leaves St. Petersburg at 6:30 a. m., arrives Ocala 12:54 p. m., leaves Ocala 1:14 p. m., arrives Gainesville at 3:30 p. m., arrives Jacksonville at 6:30 p. m.

## MULES STRAYED

Two large bay mare mules strayed from Raiford, Fla., on Friday, Nov. 14. They are the property of the state. A reasonable reward will be paid for information leading to their recovery. D. W. Purvis, Ocala, Fla. 11-15-1f.

## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

Ocala Lodge No. 19. Conventions held every Monday at 7:30 p. m. at Castle Hall, over the James Carlisle drugstore. A cordial welcome to visiting brothers. D. W. Tompkins, C. C. Chas. K. Sage, K. R. S. Ad

The Ocala Beauty Parlor at Miss Affleck's is growing in popularity every day under the management of Miss N. V. Lambert. 11-11-1f

Burnett's is the place to get your wedding presents. Select them now. 11-13-1f dw

New novels arriving every week at The Murray Company. 11-13-3t

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